

COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DIXON, ILLINOIS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023
4:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Arellano at 4:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Councilman Oros, Venier, Bishop, Considine, and Mayor Arellano answered roll call.
Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WORK SESSION

LCIDA – Kevin Marx outgoing part-time Executive Director presented the history of LCIDA, when it started and what they do. Examples: Gateway development relationships to facilitate the development, hotel feasibility study, and state program expansion. Appreciate the City's support of 60-65% of funding. Tom Demmer, incoming full-time Executive Director expressed appreciation of the continued support from the City and other organizations, he presented on his vision of the future expanded economic development, etc. The expenses will grow with the fulltime position, but they are not looking for more than what they have received in the past. Discussion ensued.

Historic Theatre – Jessica Dempsey, Chair of the Dixon Historical Theatre Group presented on the background on the grant they were awarded and the value of the employees. Jan Fatisi highlighted what she has accomplished at the theatre, background on the camps and show for the youth, scholarships and partnerships for shows, and working towards more partnerships in the community. They hope for the continued investment, in the past the City gave them \$100,000 for events. Discussion ensued.

The Next Picture Show – Philip Atilano highlighted the last year, grown significantly, and thanked for support. He spoke about the educational classes, scholarships, sponsorships, board adjustments, new mission statement, artists and show exhibits, rentals, hosting of after parties, outreach presentations, community partnerships, artists in residence program, DHS programs, and performance art. Amy Sikyta, the new Executive Director spoke regarding the invaluable asset the Next Picture Show is to the community and wants to keep it growing, continuing the

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events and programs, more education opportunities, technology for digital art and photography. They respectfully requested \$25,000 in support from the City. Discussion ensued.

Municipal Band - Chris Hammitt, Business Manager of the Dixon Municipal Band presented a recap of the last year's season, fundraising, partnerships, guest artists, and average of 50 band members and they are attracting musicians from other communities. They consistently had 100 to 150 people in attendance. They will be increasing concerts and the director is underpaid. They would like to raise \$20,000 themselves. Requested \$40,000 from the City. Discussion ensued.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Bishop moved that the Special Council Meeting of Wednesday, February 8, 2023 be adjourned to meet in Regular Session on Wednesday, February 8, 2023, at 5:30pm in the Council Chambers at the City Hall. Seconded by Councilman Oros. Voting Yea: Councilman Oros, Venier, Bishop, Considine, and Mayor Arellano. Voting Nay: None. **Motion Carried**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30pm.

CITY CLERK